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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/227,406	01/08/1999	GEOFFREY MARC MILLER	102591/1	8345

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3624

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application <u>09/227406</u>	Applicant(s) <u>Miller</u>	
	Examiner <u>Alon G</u>	Art Unit <u>3624</u>	Confirmation No.

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address -

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/30/03
- ☐ This action is FINAL. ☒ This action is non-final.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 60-83 is/are pending in this application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 60-83 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved or ☐ disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are ☐ accepted or ☐ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d) or (f).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) _____
- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is issued in reply to applicant's Request for Continued Examination(RCE)(Paper #22) filed 4/30/03 with Amendment H(Paper #23) filed concurrently.
2. Previously pending claims 43-59 were all cancelled. New claims 60-83 were now filed.
3. New claims 60-83 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. New claims 60-83 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Jachmann(US Pat. No: 5,146,439) in view of Kikinis(US Pat. No: 5,875,436) and further in view of Clark(US Pat. No: 5,974,389).
- 6.(NEW) As per claim 60, Jachmann teaches a computer-implemented method for automating administrative procedures in an office incorporating an integrated records management system(Abstract)(Fig 1)(Fig 2A)(Fig 2B)(col 2 lines 28-51). Jachmann teaches identifying receipt of an electronic document in a first computer directory (Fig 2A/110)(col 4 lines 24-37 which represents an office department and retrieving a status of the electronic document from a

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database table entry associated with the electronic document and transferring the document to a second(col 6 lines 45-50) computer directory(col 5 lines 15-23). Jachmann teaches representing a different office department based on the retrieved status(Fig 1/10/20/42) Jachmann does not specifically teach a virtual office. Kikinis teaches this (col 2 line 60-col 3 line 6)(Abstract).It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Jackmann in view of Kikinis to teach the above. The motivation is to teach an electronic office service providing full transcription capability without physical encumbrances as enunciated by Kikinis(col 1 lines 56-60). Clark also discloses a computer-based system for automating administrative procedures in a medical office comprising a control module, a database management system and server(Fig 1) and an administrative module in communication with the control module and a doctor's computer in contact with the system server that contains the database management system in Figure 1.Clark further discloses a tape management module in communication with the control module as well as a transcriber's computer(col 4 line 24) including dictation apparatus in contact with the system server in Figure 1.Clark also discloses the system server which includes Patient Record Database and is connected to the doctor's computer, nurse's computer transcriber's computer(col 3 line 35-col 7 line 14).It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Jackmann in view of Kikinis and further in view of Clark to teach applicant's disclosure. The motivation is to teach an electronic office service providing full transcription capability and with efficient workflow management in a flexible and efficient manner as enunciated by Clark(col 2 lines 33-39).

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8.(NEW) As per claims 61-83. Jachman teaches wherein the electronic document includes a transcription(col 2 lines 28-38).Jachmann does not specifically teach wherein the first computer directory represents a mail room, the status awaiting receipt of the transcription for review, and the second computer directory represents a person's office.Kikinis teaches this(col 4 lines 2-13). Jachmann teaches the method/system of claims 43 and 51 respectively wherein the electronic document includes an administrative report, the first computer directory represents a file room, the status indicates awaiting receipt of the report for printing and the second computer directory represents a printer(Fig 1/44)(Fig 2B)(Fig 3A)(Fig 4).Jachmann teaches according to the method/system and teaches general updating to reflect status of dictation jobs(col 5 lines 24-26). Jachmann does not specifically teach wherein the receipt of the electronic document is identified by monitoring the first computer directory at predetermined intervals for a presence of the electronic document.Kikinis teaches this(col 3 lines 23-29). Jachmann teaches the method/system according to claims 43 and 51 respectively wherein the database table entry is associated with the electronic document via a file-naming convention(col 5 lines 15-23)(col 4 lines 38-68). Jachmann teaches the method/system according to claims 43 and 51 respectively wherein the electronic document is transferred by a copy command(col 5 line 59-col 6 line 4)(col 6 lines 51-65). Jachmann teaches the method/system according to claims 43 and 51 respectively where the electronic document is transferred by a move command(col 5 lines 15-19)(col 6 lines 45-47)(Fig 2B/310). Jachmann teaches a computer-implemented method comprising electronically sensing(Fig 2A/110)(col 4 lines 24-37) an arrival of an electronic document in a first computer

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directory representing an office department and querying a database for a status of the electronic document and updating the status of the electronic document in the database and copying the electronic document to a second computer directory(col 6 lines 45-50)(col 5 lines 15-23).Jachman teaches representing a different office department based on the retrieved status(Fig 1/10/20/42). Jachmann does not specifically teach a virtual office. Kikinis teaches this(col 2 line 60-col 3 line 6)(Abstract). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Jackmann in view of Kikinis to teach the above. The motivation is to teach an electronic office service providing full transcription capability without physical encumbrances as enunciated by Kikinis(col 1 lines 56-60).Clark also discloses a computer-based system for automating administrative procedures in a medical office comprising a control module, a database management system and server(Fig 1) and an administrative module in communication with the control module and a doctor's computer in contact with the system server that contains the database management system in Figure 1.Clark further discloses a tape management module in communication with the control module as well as a transcriber's computer(col 4 line 24) including dictation apparatus in contact with the system server in Figure 1.Clark also discloses the system server which includes Patient Record Database and is connected to the doctor's computer, nurse's computer transcriber's computer(col 3 line 35-col 7 line 14).It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Jackmann in view of Kikinis and further in view of Clark to teach applicant's disclosure. The motivation is to teach an electronic office service providing full transcription

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capability and with efficient workflow management in a flexible and efficient manner as enunciated by Clark(col 2 lines 33-39).

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.**

8. Questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the examiner, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E. who can be telephoned at (703)-306-5844 between the hours of 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be contacted at (703)-308-1065.

GRA

June 3, 2009

DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.
PRIMARY EXAMINER